

# The Academic Vocabulary List

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**Sample of core academic words.** Complete lists and detailed information at: [www.academicwords.info](http://www.academicwords.info).

rank	word	PoS	frequency	ratio	dispersion	range
39	value	n	49,900	1.97	0.96	9
41	role	n	49,426	1.81	0.95	8
42	difference	n	49,081	1.93	0.93	8
43	analysis	n	48,500	2.85	0.93	8
44	practice	n	47,915	2.06	0.95	8
46	thus	r	46,287	2.69	0.95	8
47	control	n	45,690	1.64	0.93	9
48	form	n	45,275	1.90	0.95	8
49	report	v	44,666	1.64	0.92	8
51	significant	j	44,415	2.44	0.93	8
52	figure	n	44,084	1.92	0.92	8
53	factor	n	43,871	2.43	0.92	8
54	interest	n	43,498	1.51	0.95	9
56	need	n	42,193	1.82	0.95	9
57	base	v	42,082	1.80	0.95	9

In order to be included in the list, the word must meet the four criteria shown below, and the words are then listed by frequency in COCA-Academic.

Columns	Limit	Explanation
word		The word; actually the lemma (e.g. [report] = {report, reported}, etc)
PoS		Part of speech ( <u>n</u> oun, <u>v</u> erb, <u>a</u> djective, <u>a</u> dverb, etc)
frequency		Frequency in COCA Academic (120 million words)
ratio	<b>1.50</b>	A ratio showing how much more frequent the word is in Academic than the rest of COCA (per million words); e.g. 1.50 = 50% more frequent
dispersion	<b>0.80</b>	How "evenly" the word is spread across Academic (0-1). This is the Juilland "d" measure.
range	<b>7</b>	In how many of the nine domains does the word occur with at least 20% of the expected frequency (based on the size of that domain)
	<b>Not greater than 3.0</b>	The word (lemma) can also not occur at more than three times the expected frequency in any domain. For example, the word <i>federal</i> occurs at 3.69 the expected frequency in Law/PolSci, so it is not included as a "core academic" word.
domains		The spreadsheet also includes the raw frequency of the lemma in each of the nine domains, as well as a ratio of frequency to expected frequency (based on the size of the domain, in words). These are not shown here, for reasons of space.